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THE PURDUE UNIVERSITY CALUMET
CHRONICLE

Week of Feburary 6, 2012 Vol. 31, Issue 21

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Not enough spaces for the handicapped

Brandon Hayes
News Editor

Most often, finding a parking spot at PUC is a job in itself, let alone getting one within close walking distance to campus buildings. As drivers speed up and down the rows of parked vehicles in search of that perfect spot, those with disabilities must also fight for their reserved spaces.

Every so often, drivers will either disregard the clearly marked spaces or will use a relative's vehicle.

PUC Chief of Police Anthony Martin said there are a total of 81 parking spaces on campus available for the handicapped, which are strategically placed close to each building. Martin said problems occur when people who have a handicapped placard belonging to someone else decide to park in a designated handicapped space.

"There are some able-bodied people that have handicapped license plates because of a handicapped relative who are abusing the privilege," Martin said.

Martin said University Police will issue tickets if they can prove the abuse. In addition to fines, Martin said he "would like to get approval to tow any vehicles abusing the privilege."

According to Marylin Biddle, secretary for PUC's Office of Disability Resources, there are currently 143 students receiving accommodations through the office. Biddle said that aside from student or faculty who may have a handicap, the allotted parking spaces may not always be available due to visitors to the university who may have a disability.

"It's important to take into consideration that people with a handicap may be visiting for a sports game, buying books or may have a temporary tag due to an injury or surgery," Biddle said.

According to Indiana Criminal Code 5-16-9-5, the penalties for parking in a handicap spot illegally or without either a valid handicap placard or license plate is a Class C infraction or misdemeanor and a "civil judgment of not less than fifty dollars ($50) must be imposed for an infraction committed in violation."

Photo: Brandon Hayes

With limited space at the PUC parking lots, handicap spaces can be difficult to find.

While solving the constantly complained about parking problems of PUC may not be possible anytime soon, it is important to leave those spaces available for people who physically need a close parking spot.

Chinese New Year Celebration

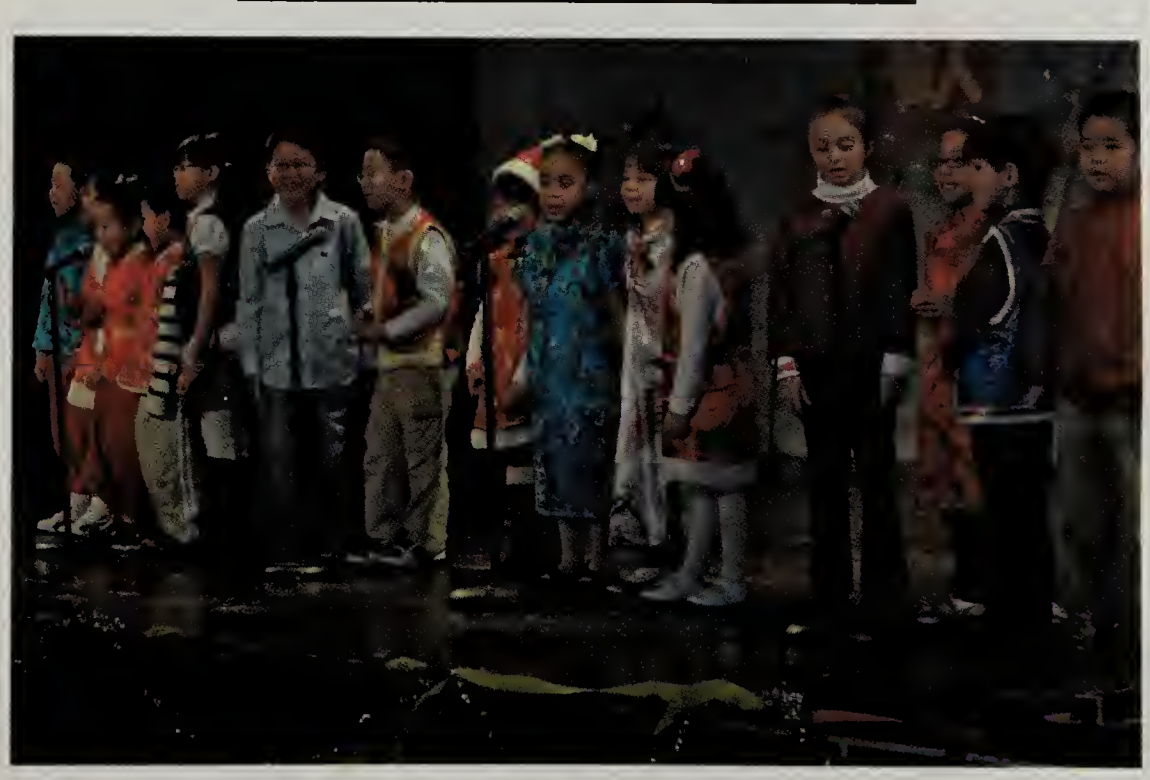

Photo: Morgan Walker

Students from NW Indiana Chinese School/Chinese Network sing at the Chinese New Year Celebration on Feb. 4.

Synthetic marijuana: Danger

Jacqueline Sheets
News Writer

The use of synthetic marijuana has risen in the past five years, creating a major problem throughout the U.S. Commonly, people try to create substitutes for drugs that are determined to be illegal. Take bath salts for example. Many people substitute the substance as a means to get a high rather than use cocaine. These substitutes that are created are just as dangerous, if not more of a danger, as the actual drug. Synthetic marijuana has made the never-ending list of substitutes for illegal drugs. With its creation, the number of users is on the rise throughout U.S.

According to PUC Chief of Police Anthony Martin, people have reported that synthetic marijuana gives an individual the same high as real marijuana. However, Martin explained that people really do not understand the dangers of putting this stuff into their bodies. For example, the term that is commonly used for synthetic marijuana is called Spice or K2. What people hardly realize is that Spice originated overseas in the creation of something many know and use today as a room scent: incense.

However, the only thing that is different between the synthetic marijuana many young people use to get a high and incense is the chemicals used to make the drug.

"We do not know a lot about synthetic marijuana at this point in time because it is still quite new to us," Martin stated. "However, we do know that the makers of the drug frequently change the ingredients and chemicals in the synthetic marijuana to avoid punishments by law and to continue selling it on the market."

"I sometimes think if the media would show the chemicals in this stuff then maybe people would stop using it," Martin stated. "People who want to ingest something that is soaked in chemicals is beyond me, however, we have to realize the major problems that are resulting from the circulation of this drug."

Synthetic marijuana has been linked to several severe health problems such as depression, psychological issues, hallucinations and even death. With just the start of a pulsating headache, an individual could find themselves at a fork in the road with a sign saying, "life or death."

"I do not think it is any better than actual marijuana and it should be illegal if it is damaging to an individual's health," said PUC Senior Sara Ortiz.

However, quite recently legislation in Indiana has identified a

See Danger page 4

ADMINISTRATIVE
update

STOP! LOOK! & Pay Attention Out There!

In addition to encouraging students, faculty and staff to engage in safe practices and behaviors, our University Police wants to remind everyone on campus to be conscientious about their personal items.

Recently, *The Chronicle* ran an article about the many flash drives that are brought to University Police. When these devices are received, our police officers attempt to search them to identify the rightful owner.

In one such instance, a flash drive contained a folder titled "Personal." The folder included passwords, banking information and medical history data. The relatively large number of these and other valuable items that are turned over to University Police suggests students are distracted or otherwise not paying proper attention because they are in too much of a hurry.

Consider the following...

• One student left her purse in a classroom. Another very honest student delivered the purse and contents—including $142—to University Police.

• A student exited her car in the Porter parking area and dropped her wallet as she ran to catch up with a friend. The wallet was recovered, along with the $600 it contained.

• A student left a fairly new laptop, complete with all cords and a very nice case, at a campus location. To reacquire it the owner must identify it. University Police continues to hold it.

• *In haste to get to class, a student exited her car and left it running for* hours with no idea she had left her key in the ignition.

Good sense practices

There are plenty of other unfortunate occurrences. To avoid them, University Police encourages students to:

1. Stop
2. Collect themselves
3. Conduct a personal inventory mentally.
4. Ask themselves: "What was I doing?" and
5. Remember to take control of their items

Register serial numbers at University Police

Additionally, University Police encourages students to take advantage of "Operation PIN" (Personal Identification Number). This is an initiative by which students may register serial numbers of personal items at our University Police office.

If a registered item becomes lost or stolen, University Police will list the serial number in a national data-base. For items that do not have serial numbers, University Police will engrave the item with a number of particular significance to the owner.

What's Going On?
A look around PUC...

American Red Cross Blood Drive
February 15 and 16, 2012
10AM to 4PM
Alumni Hall (3rd floor of SULB)
All donors will be entered to win a Visa Gift Card each day and receive a chocolate bar.
Make an appointment at www.purduecal.edu/wellness; walk-ins also welcome.
Bring your ID!
Questions? Call the Wellness Center at 989-2709.
Sponsored by Student and Staff Wellness and School of Nursing

Discussions of the book
Discussions of the book "Nickel and Dimed," taught in the CSA Learning Communities courses, will be held in the Writing Center (CLO 263). All students, staff, and faculty are welcome to join any or all of the following free sessions, which will be hosted by Writing Center tutors:
Wed, Feb 8, Intro and Chapter 1 (Florida);
Tues, Feb 21, Chapter 2 (Maine);
Wed, March 7, Chapter 3 (Minnesota);
and Tues, March 20, Evaluation.

Anyone interested in publicizing events, organizations, clubs or departments in "What's Going On?" must submit briefs the Monday before publication. The Chronicle does not guarantee placement of briefs submitted.

Please limit submissions to four sentences and include the first and last name of the contact person.

Briefs may be submitted via e-mail at chronicle@purduecal.edu or campus cc: mail - Chronicle or to the newsroom located in the Student Union and Library building, room 344H.

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Was?!

Michelle Mullins
Asst. Ent. Editor

Spanish, French, German and Japanese are four of the main languages taught at PUC, but students can only major and minor in two out of those four: Spanish and French. Emails are constantly sent to my inbox for trips to Spain, but I don't speak a word of Spanish, nor do I speak any French. I've been learning German for the past five years, and this is my first semester without a German course. I completed them all, and it feels rather lonely over here.

The German courses offered are German language courses, but I want to learn more. No international studies, teaching, translation or general major or minors are offered in German. So, now what?

Am I supposed to minor in a program that I don't particularly want to minor in, or nothing at all? If I minor in nothing and just continue on with my current major, does that make me look lazy? Since companies these days want the "well-rounded" student, it is not as simple as getting A's and B's and then I am secured

If I'm going to pay for an education, it is going to be something I am passionate about

a position in the future. I know people who are "well-rounded" and still don't have jobs, so I need all the help I can get. If I'm going to pay for an education, it is going to be something I am passionate about and not something that is just going to bring in the dough.

Yes, I have thought about learning the language at other schools, but relocating would be foolish and nearly impossible to do at this point. So, now I'm back to complaining about no other classes being offered. I guess I'm supposed to find my own way to tackle this situation.

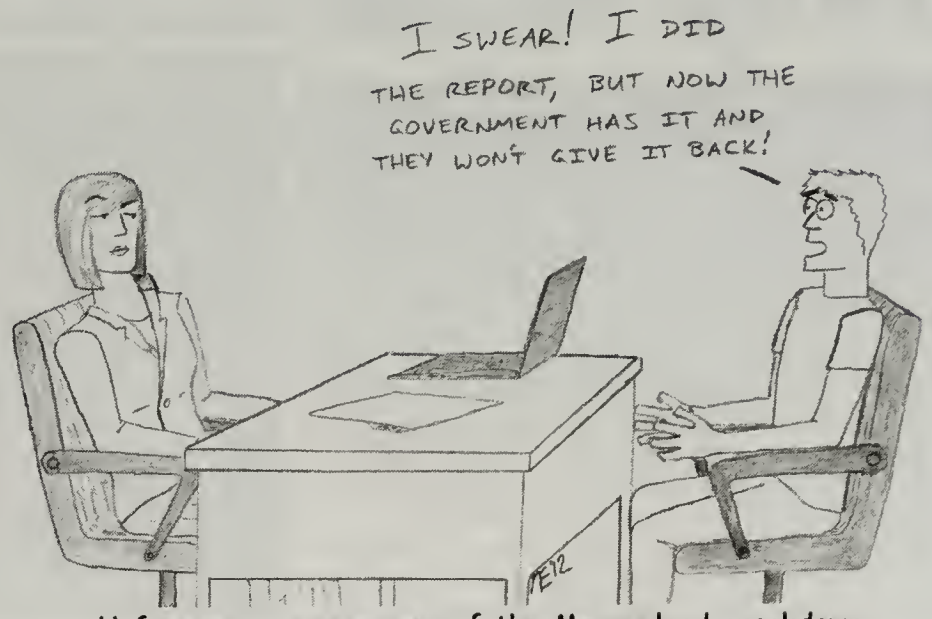
I could go online and get an "I can speak German now" certificate, but that's not what I want. I want to be immersed in German culture. I want to learn everything I possibly can about that country so that if I go there one day (in the near future), I'll be able to converse with them, write with them, translate for them and just generally understand them.

I cannot be the only one who feels this way about an "unpopular" language they have spent grueling years trying to understand. I have friends who have been studying Russian, Arabic, Japanese and Italian in different colleges or schools and can't do anything once they get here.

So, I guess I'll just crawl back into my German workshop book, old textbook and German-English dictionary and work it out with myself. Tschüss.

Readers can contact Michelle at chronicle_entertainment@yahoo.com or (219) 989-2547.

'Bored In Class' by Nikko Elliott



Unforeseen consequences of the Megaupload crackdown.

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Morgan Walker, Photo Editor
Michelle Nunez, Production Manager
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Pushing your grandma out of the way to save some time

The issue: People without disabilities are abusing handicapped parking.
Our stance: This kind of behavior is morally reprehensible.

Generally, students have to walk awfully far if they hope to get to class on time. Unless they wake up early with a bowl of Reese's Puffs (it is candy for breakfast ™), they better wear their walking boots. With only 81 parking spaces on campus available for the handicapped, it is difficult to even imagine what they must have to go through to ensure their own spots.

Thankfully, our fellow students are always eager to lend a helping hand. Many have taken to parking in the handicapped spaces without discretion, or even better, borrowing the placards of handicapped individuals so that they may park a little closer.

Wait, what?

Realistically, that is quite the opposite of being helpful or even considerate. Would students shove their grandparents down the stairs of their apartment so that they could beat them to the car? Probably not, but that is essentially what they are doing to OTHER people's grandparents to get to class a little quicker.

People with serious injuries and the elderly actually need those spaces to avoid increasing the severity of their broken foot or recently replaced hip. Without those handicapped spaces closer to where they need to get, the actual journey getting there may take half the class, or worse, leave the traveler writhing in pain on the ground.

Take the long trek it requires for the average student to get to class on any given day and imagine how miserable it must be to make that same journey with an injury. Not only is it nearly impossible to maneuver around on crutches for that kind of pilgrimage, but it is probably immensely painful as well. Creaky joints and broken bones are the very reasons these people have handicapped privileges in the first place.

So unless students want the inherently bad karma of shoving somebody else's grandparents faces into the pavement to get to class a little quicker, they may want to think twice before swiping a reserved handicapped spot out from someone's cast, crutches or wheels.

After all, by making it a habit and showing other students it is possible to be a rebel and park where they want, it may catch on. If we go around promoting this kind of morally appalling behavior, then it could be your grandma collapsed in the middle of the grubby PUC parking lot.

Students with opinions on this or any other editorial are encouraged to e-mail us at chronicle_eic@yahoo.com.

COMMENTS?

Write to us and see your thoughts in print!

The Chronicle Editorial Policy

The views expressed in submitted commentaries and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of The Chronicle or Purdue University Calumet. The Chronicle is not an official publication of Purdue University Calumet. The Chronicle welcomes reader input. Letters and commentaries must include the writers name, class standing or other affiliation and a telephone number for verification. The more concise the letter, the better chance of publication. All materials submitted to The Chronicle become the property of The Chronicle. The Chronicle reserves the right to edit for clarity, accuracy, space and news style. Deadline for submissions is the Friday before the publication.

Increasing the Difficulty

Dante Silguero
Asst. News Editor

A snarky comment I like to make is "the number one killer in the world is retirement." The truth behind the statement is that people have a subconscious need to be doing something. That is

People have a subconscious need to be doing something

not to say that one must always be doing something, as it is definitely beneficial to not do anything for an hour or two. Everybody needs a rest from time to time, but this blurb of mine isn't about the rest; this is about the challenge.

For me, at least, there is no more effective way of dropping my grades and losing interest in my means of entertainment than to make my classes and those means utterly unchallenging. I went to pastry school out of high school and enjoyed it, but I was never really happy with the lack of a challenge from what I was learning. It really isn't too hard to make a good cake or a loaf of bread. I've noticed that my lowest grades throughout high school and in college have been in classes that I didn't find intellectually challenging. I've been known to, and have just recently been forced to, stop playing a game that just stops challenging me. Let's face it, when you can sneak up on an ancient dragon and kill it with one backstab, the game in question loses a lot of its appeal.

Now, I could continue playing "Skyrim" on the Medium difficulty, complete all the main quest arcs and beat the game just the same as I could take simple classes, be happy with a simple college life, and graduate with my Bachelor's degree, but I wouldn't really be happy with that.

Plenty of students here at PUC and across the world are the same way, even if they don't quite realize it yet. I have known students to do poorly in classes and say they don't understand why they're doing so poorly in an "easy" class. I submit to these students that it may just be because the class is easy that they're not doing well in it.

Just as the best way to get better at chess is to play a lot of games against equal or slightly better players and the best way to keep a workout schedule is to increase the reps or weight once a session gets too easy, so too the best way to keep interested in school is to increase its difficulty if it's too easy. The mind's a muscle and must always be exercised, otherwise it will get metaphorically flabby. And who knows, maybe once you increase the difficulty, that ancient dragon will take TWO backstabs to kill!

Readers can contact Dante at chronicle_newseditor@yahoo.com or (219) 989-2547.

File sharing sites change policies after Megaupload shutdown

Andrea Drac
Staff Writer

The Stop Online Piracy Act and the Protect-IP Act, bills created in the House and Senate respectively and aimed to combat online piracy, have both been shelved according to an article on washingtonpost.com. Still,, even without those bills, piracy is still being combated on the internet.

On Jan. 19, Megaupload, a major file sharing site, was shut down by the FBI and its owners were charged with copyright infringement, according to an article on PCMag.com. In addition, PC Mag said they were also charged with "conspiring to commit money laundering, and two substantive counts of criminal copyright infringement. If convicted, those involved face up to 50 years in prison on all charges."

The money laundering charge comes from Megaupload being accused of illegally profiting off of copyrighted content that was put on their website and distributed to other websites through links; content such as movies, music, books, TV shows and software. However, Megaupload was not just a haven for copyrighted content.

"MU was a great source for sharing files that were not under copyright," junior and broadcasting major Bob Anderson said, stating he did not agree with the FBI closing the site down. "Sure, there may have been copy written material on there, but isn't there copy written material everywhere? I think the FBI took down a good source of file sharing on the net."

Anderson said he has used Megaupload at times to download CDs of local indie bands when they would give out the link.

But downloading files is becoming harder to do since Megaupload's shutdown. According to an article on PCMag.com, other file-sharing sites such as FileSonic have stopped file-sharing altogether and allowing users to only download the files they have uploaded themselves. FileSonic, along with similar sites like Fileserve, FileJungle, UploadStation, 4shared and FilePost, have shut down their affiliate programs, which is a program in place to pay users for uploading anddownloading files.

The site uploaded.to has also been blocked to U.S. users that want to access it, with a statement that says, "Our service is currently unavailable in your country. Sorry about that."

Computer engineering major Ahmad Alkad said he was surprised when he read about Megaupload's shutdown, and says they have gone too far with changing policies. Meanwhile, Anderson is understanding of the changes.

"I can't blame them really; they are just making sure they don't have a government raid on their system," Anderson said.

According to the PUC website, if students are downloading copyrighted files on the computers, they are notified of it from an outside organization such as FOX, stating there was copyright infringement during use of the PUC network.. The website also states that PUC is able to identify the student doing the downloading from tracking down the IP address that was mentioned in the infringement notice.

From there, the student's access to the PUC network is disabled and the Office of the Dean of Students sends a letter to the student to attend a disciplinary hearing with a student conduct administrator, where they are asked to sign a contract to delete the infringing file(s) and not do it again. The student's access to the network then returns.

Alkad said that online piracy hurts artists, but at the same time, things are changing with everyone doing everything on the internet.

Anderson agreed by stating that "Piracy has been going on since the dawn of the internet. I believe that the internet was an anarchist state, and will always continue as such. There's always going to be piracy."

For more information on what happens to students who illegally download on campus and for links to legal downloading sites, visit: http://webs.purduecal.edu/deanofstudents/academic-integrity/copyright-student/.

Danger

continued from page 1

Photo Provided

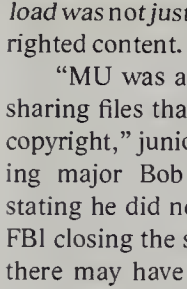
Just a few of the different brands of synthetic marijuana avaliable.

bill in order to ban specific chemicals used to create the strands of synthetic marijuana and bath salts.

"I would say that this stuff should definitely be illegal and, hopefully, it would be harder to obtain if it was illegal," PUC Junior Emily Long said. According to Martin, people have a great incentive when selling the synthetic marijuana. This incentive is to make a profit through money earned under the table and, therefore, goes untaxed by the federal government. "So if people are willing to buy this stuff, then there will definitely be people that are going to sell it," Martin said.

Even though drugs and alcohol are recurrent issues on college campuses throughout the nation and not just for PUC, the curiosity that pervades young people into adulthood is what causes crimes to occur. "Therefore, we must make sure enough information is made available to people so that they are able to make the right decision," Martin said.

Luckily, the use of synthetic marijuana has not been a problem for the PUC campus. "This is because our job is to ensure the safety of the campus and we have a priority to make sure that an individual receives help if the offense committed does not involve harm to another individual or harm to an individual's property," Martin said.



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'The Artist': Everything old is new again

Jeff Scott
Entertainment Writer

★★★★★

One sheer pleasure of going to the movies is discovering a wonderful film that entertains, moves and delights the viewer. "The Artist," currently nominated for ten Academy Awards, including Best Picture, is one of those movies. It is as much a love letter to old time Hollywood as it is about Hollywood itself. "The Artist" is also one of the best films to be released in many months.

George Valentin (French star Jean Dujardin, nominated for Best Actor) is one of the biggest stars in all of Hollywood during the silent era, where he plays dashing and romantic heroes. Movie fan Peppy Miller (Best Supporting Actress nominee Berenice Bejo) gets a chance to kiss her idol on the cheek, while the press snaps pictures. The papers wonder who she is. She is a dancer and actress herself, and scores a bit part in one of Valentin's movies. Her stardom begins to rise as she gets bigger parts, becoming a major box office draw. When

See Now & Again page 6

'Touch' gives Fox a new hope

Michelle Mullins
Asst. Entertainment Editor

blogspot.com

After trying his luck at bad-boy vampire and counter-terrorism expert, Keifer Sutherland ("24" and "The Lost Boys) is taking on the role of a father. Sutherland stars in the new supernatural drama "Touch" on Fox . With one of Fox's biggest shows, "House," possibly ending its run after this season, the new series "Touch" shows some early promise for the network. Touching hearts at home with a wife killed on Sept. 11, 2001 and dipping its foot into the sci-fi pool, "Touch" is gliding down the right road for now.

"Touch" follows the story of widower Martin Bohm (Sutherland), whose wife died on Sept. 11, and his mute son Jake, played by newcomer David Mazouz. Jake has a knack for getting himself into strange and dangerous predicaments, which lead people to think Martin is a bad father. This brings a social worker named Clea Hopkins into the story, played by Gugu Mbatha-Raw ("Larry Crowne").

The story centers on the scientific theory known as the "string theory" which describes subatomic "strings" that connect all things together. In the first five minutes, the viewer is bombarded by statistics that Jake spouts out. He pulls viewers in, assisting them in understanding the overall theme and feel of the show, which is connected, yet separated. Jake obsesses over seemingly random numbers, writing them down constantly. Martin sees them as a code which ultimately leads him to the home of Arthur Teller, a coincidental number theory expert played by Danny Glover ("Lethal Weapon").

Sutherland commands the viewer's attention with his demanding and powerful personality. Although Mazouz never says a word other than his narration, his expressions play a key part in this show. "He sees the world in a completely different way," is how Teller explains to Martin why Jake acts the way he does. When Jake is upset or confused, the expression he gives off and the body language he sends to his father really convey his emotions. Sutherland plays the role of a confused and desperate father trying to understand his son perfectly, and this helps carry the show from scene to scene.

See Connected page 6

Office of Student Activities
www.purduecal.edu/studentactivities

Ski Trip
Vertical Rise: 460 feet
35 Ski Trails
Longest Run: 5280 ft.
Terrain Variety
38% Beginner
24% Intermediate
38% Advanced
4 Terrain Parks on 30 acres
Cascade Mountain
Saturday, Feb. 25
6am-10pm
Portage, Wisconsin
$50 PUC Undergrads; $80 Others
Includes bus ride, ski or board rental and lift ticket
Sponsored by Student Activities
Register by 2/17/12 in SUL-104B. No credit cards accepted. Questions? Call 989-2369.

MARDI GRAS MADNESS
WINTER DANCE
Saturday, February 18
9pm-Midnight
Alumni Hall, 3rd Floor, SUL
Free for PUC Students
$5 Others

Student Tailgate Trip
Purdue Calumet vs. Trinity Christian
Basketball Doubleheader @ Palos Heights, IL
Men's Game 7:30pm
Women's Game 5:30pm
Weds., February 15
4:30pm - 9:30pm
Includes
• Bus ride
• Peregrine T-shirt
• Admission to both games
• Pizza meal between games
Free!
$10 deposit returned on the bus
REGISTER BY 2/13/12 IN SUL-104B
Co sponsored by Student Activities & Athletics

Chicago Dueling Pianos .com
Student Activities Presents
Dueling Pianos
Thursday, Feb. 9
7pm-9pm; Alumni Hall, SUL
Free admission

I Need a Hug Challenge
Donate a new stuffed animal before Feb. 14
Donations will be sent to local schools where they'll serve as reading buddies and help comfort kids in crisis.
The student organization that collects the most stuffed animals will win a free pizza party from Student Activities.
Drop off stuffed animals in SUL-104B.

Now & Again

continued from page 5

sound comes into play, Miller embraces the new technology, and her popularity continues to soar. Valentin stubbornly refuses to make any of the new "talkies," insisting on making only silent films. The result is that his own career goes into decline, with only his dog and his chauffer, Clifton, remaining loyal to him.

The gimmick of the "The Artist" is that it is filmed just like a silent movie, with only music and a few sound effects. Captions written on cards that appear on the screen provide the dialogue. French writer and director Michel Hazanavicius (nominated for Best Director) has an uncanny ability to recreate the films of that period, with help from his remarkable crew who have an eye for designing hair, sets, makeup and costumes that reflect the era with precision. The luminous black and white cinematography captures the beauty of such exquisite detail, drawing the audience into this different looking world and involving them in it.

Hazanavicius has crafted a film that encompasses comedy, drama, romance and even musical. He succeeds at all of these things. He also has a deep knowledge about and a great love for old movies. But one does not have to be on old movie fanatic to enjoy "The Artist." It is a sweet, funny and charming movie without being too sloppily sentimental.

The performances are exceptional all around. Dujardin has to express many different emotions in the film, running the gamut of happiness, sadness, tenderness, heartbreak, disappointment and finally hope. He conveys all of them with compassion for his character, making it a memorable performance. That he does it without sound makes it all the more remarkable. Valentin becomes a hero to root for, one that viewers want to see turn his life around and possibly make a comeback. Bejo is winning and appealing as the heroine, captivating viewers in the same way her character appeals to her film going public.

There is terrific support from some American actors, too. Penelope Ann Miller ("Kindergarten Cop") as Valentin's wife ably shows the lack of appreciation she has for him. James Cromwell ("Babe," "L.A. Confidential") as Clifton the chauffeur, who is always on hand to lend friendship and support to Valentin, is as solid as he always is. John Goodman ("Roseanne") is a scene stealer as a blowhard studio executive who tries to convince Valentin to give the "talkies" a chance.

"The Artist" is a true gem. Great movies are rare these days, and this film is one of them. By letting the audience escape into a different world, and by caring about its characters, "The Artist" shows everything that the movies can be, even without color and sound.

wordpress.com

Peppy (Bérénice Bejo) and George (Jean Dujardin) illuminating the screen in "The Artist."

'Modern Warfare 3': War never changes

Brian Lynch
Managing Editor

★★★½

For years, the "Call of Duty" franchise has been the undisputed king of online multiplayer shooters. Over the course of several games, the series has refined the overall experience down to a near-perfect balance of skill and enjoyment. Unfortunately, the games have reached a point where they sacrifice change and innovation for stability, and "Modern Warfare 3" suffers because of it.

The story mode picks up where "Modern Warfare 2" left off. After the shocking events of the previous game, The United States is still embroiled in a bitter war with Russia, setting the scene for most of the missions. Over the course of the campaign, this conflict will take players across the globe, from the war-torn streets of Manhattan to Dubai and nearly everywhere in between.

Like previous installments, "MW3" features brilliant set-pieces and more explosions than a Michael Bay movie. While the game attempts to one-up its predecessors, most of it feels rehashed. There is an undeniable "been there, done that" air about the campaign, despite developer Infinity Ward's attempts to up the ante. While the campaign has a few moments of brilliance, particularly once the locale shifts to Paris, gamers who have supported the series will likely feel underwhelmed by the experience.

But honestly, the current "Call of Duty" games have never been known for their single-player campaigns. The real meat of the series lies in the stellar online multiplayer modes. Players can choose between classic mainstays, such as Team Deathmatch and Capture the Flag among others, receiving level advancements by earning points from kills and completing objectives. These level advancements allow players to earn upgrades ranging from new weapons and equipment to stylish nameplates for their display names.

As always, the multiplayer modes do a fantastic job of rewarding players just enough to keep them playing, while lengthening the experience by withholding the most powerful equipment. The game is extremely generous with its experience points, allowing even the most mediocre of players to feel like John Rambo. This time around, players are able to level-up each individual weapon by gaining kills. At certain levels, players can unlock upgrades for the weapon, such as long-range scopes and reduced recoil. This is a fresh take on combat, as it rewards players for sticking with a weapon rather than jumping straight to a more powerful one. The popular killstreaks have also been revamped into "pointstreaks," rewarding players with powerful backups such as attack helicopters for completing objectives as well as downing opponents.

Joining the traditional gametypes is the new "Kill Confirmed" mode, in which players earn points for their teams by collecting the dog tags of fallen opponents. If a teammate is able to collect the tags before the opposing team, they deny the kill and prevent them from earning the points. This new mode is surprisingly fun, and can lead to some frantic and heated battles. It is clear that Infinity Ward spent a great deal of time tweaking the gameplay to appear fresh, yet familiar.

But no amount of tweaking can hide the fact that the multiplayer, while still extremely fun, has gotten stagnant. It is a tricky line to walk, making a game that has been perfected down to a science seem new and innovative. Too much change, and fans are alienated, with an additional risk of tarnishing the game's image. Too little change, and it is essentially publishing the same game over and over again. It cannot be denied that "MW3" is a highly-polished and competent game. It just feels too familiar to truly be "new."

Rating a game like "Modern Warfare 3" is a difficult task. On its own merits, it is a fantastic game that can provide dozens of hours of solid fun. However, as yet another entry in the "Call of Duty" series, it does not deviate enough from previous entries to be truly exceptional. Many have taken to calling "MW3" a "glorified expansion pack." While that may not be entirely fair, it is hard to argue against the sentiment.

"Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 3" is available for the PC, Playstation 3, Xbox 360 and Nintendo Wii.

Rating System

★★★★★ ESSENTIAL
★★★★ EXCELLENT
★★★ AVERAGE
★★ POOR
★ AWFUL

pcgamer.com

Combat rocks the streets of Manhattan in "Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 3."

Connected

continued from page 5

thetvinformant.com

Aside from solid performances from the two leads, the creator of the show is another reason why the program may work. Tim Kring, whose most recent work was "Heroes," created "Touch" and gave an old story a breath of fresh air. He allows the show to take place all over the world, in Japan, Baghdad, London and Ireland, but still brings the show back to its core, which is the relationship between father and son, Martin and Jake.

A looming fear is that the storyline of "Touch" could turn a bit stale with Martin trying to decipher a new code every week. Tim Kring also has a history of canceled shows. "Crossing Jordan" was canceled after six seasons and "Heroes" was canceled after four. However, "Touch" definitely shows promise, and could have a decent run if the story does not get lost in a world of jumbled numbers.

The pilot episode can be seen on Fox.com, and the show returns to television sets on March 19.

Air hockey champ notches 3-pete

Julie Sipek
Sports Writer

What is for most players a simple arcade game has become a very popular and competitive intramural sport at PUC.

The turnout for the annual air hockey tournament on Jan. 21 was markedly increased from recent years.

The infamous snow storm of 2011 resulted in the rescheduling of last year's tournament which, according to intramural sports director Matt Dudzik, made it difficult for everyone who had originally signed up to make it. However, this year's equally surprising weather had no effect on the tournament and allowed all 16 students who signed up to compete.

One of the competitors was two-year defending champion, junior Mike Murphy.

"This was the stiffest competition I have seen here yet," said Murphy.

The tournament was double elimination. Each match was played to either the six-minute mark or when someone scored seven points. If the games were tied at the end of six minutes, they played sudden death overtime.

The participants started out the night by competing in eight preliminary matches which seeded them into winner and loser brackets. The level of skill varied among the players, but all agreed that they were out to have a good time.

"I wanted to do my best and have fun," senior Anthony Torres, who had never played air hockey prior to this tournament, said.

This lack of experience came as a shock to those watching. Torres remained undefeated for much of the night. He even handed Murphy his first loss in three years when they met at the table for the first time in the middle of the tournament.

"When he beat me, it seemed like he could score whenever he wanted to," Murphy said.

With one loss only halfway through the tournament, Murphy had a long way to go if he wanted to defend his title. In the meantime, Torres continued to win. He was able to notch another victory before Murphy returned to the table.

Photo: Jessica Calhoun

Christina Gray battles against returning champ Mike Murphy in this years' Air Hockey competition in the fitness center.

"There were a lot of people who know how to play," Torres said. "I got lucky."

That last win secured a spot in the championship match for Torres. Murphy, on the other hand, had to win three back-to-back matches for the chance to take on Torres in the championship match.

"It was a tough feeling," Murphy said. "It's never nice knowing that you can't afford to lose a game."

But just as in the two previous years, Murphy held off his competition and met Torres for the championship match. Since Torres was undefeated in the double elimination tournament, Murphy would have to beat him twice in order to win, whereas Torres only had to win once.

Murphy made quick work of the first game, winning by a score of 7-1. This forced a second, more intense match. However, the experience of Murphy once again outweighed that of his opponent as he won 7-4, defending his title for another year.

"The guy's got a powerful shot and he's very accurate," Murphy said. "I'm anticipating seeing him in the tournament again next year."

Both Murphy and Torres said they will definitely be back for next year's tournament, and encourage others to come out and have a good time as well.

Photo: Jessica Calhoun

Natalia Lee (left) and Tiffany Lee (right) participate in the warm-up session before the competition officially starts in the Fitness Center on Jan. 31.

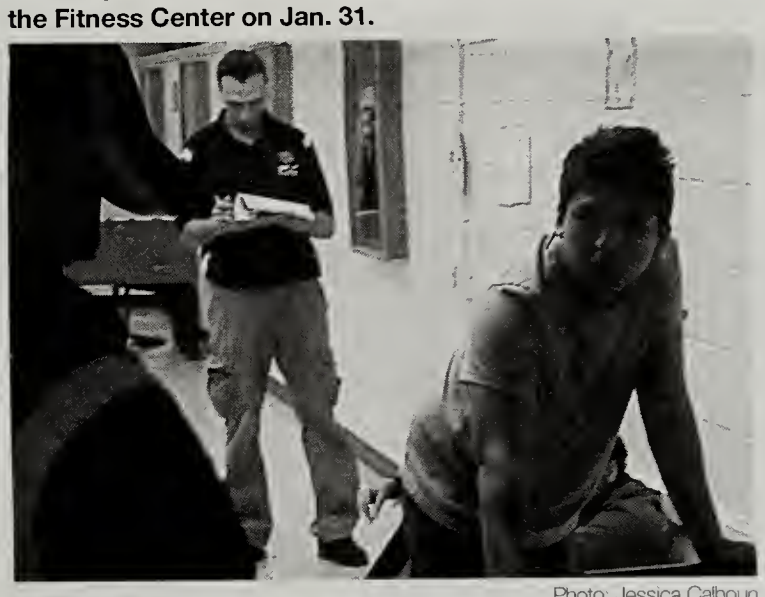
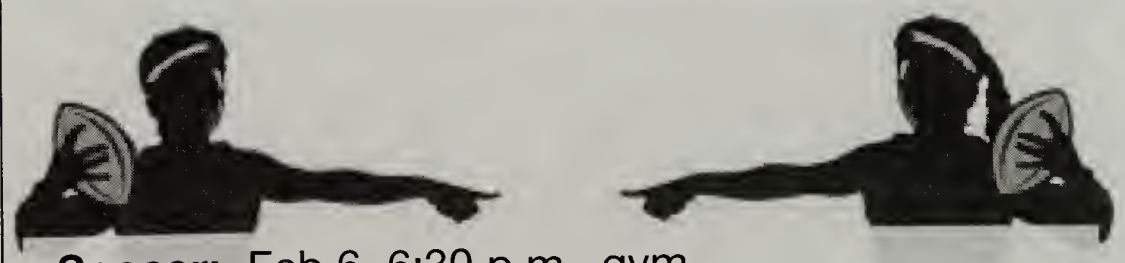


Photo: Jessica Calhoun

Fernando Pina waits until the scorekeeper changes his score so he can continue the game against Tiffany Lee during Tuesdays Air Hockey competition.

Intramurals this week



Soccer: Feb.6, 6:30 p.m., gym

Bowling: Feb. 7 & 8, 6:30 p.m., Plaza Lanes in Highland

Ping Pong Tournament: Feb., 9, 6:30 p.m., gym

Basketball: Feb. 12, 11:30, gym

Soccer

continued from page 8

"A bench is a wonderful thing to have," he said.

As far as recruitment is concerned, Ferguson would like to look at recruiting transfer students and eventually incoming freshman. Drzewiecki said he would, "leave no stone unturned."

"Ultimately, I don't care if you're from Highland or from Turkey," he said. "If you're the right fit for my program, then I want to work with you."

Ferguson would like to make a great relationship with her players and build a winning team.

"At the community college level, we acted like a family," Ferguson said. "It has to do with the environment you create on a soccer team, keeping players together and getting better."

Da Bulls bring it once again

Michelle Calhoun
Sports Writer

The Chicago Bulls are making their mark this season as one of the best teams in the NBA.

The team started the season off with giving Chicago a Merry Christmas when they beat the Lakers. I, along with every Bulls fan, have had high hopes for Chicago since then.

Fans like me cannot help but hope that there may even be a chance to have a glimpse, only a glimpse mind you, of the Dynasty days, but I'm probably just getting ahead of myself.

Reigning MVP Derrick Rose is making every Chicago fan cry with joy. With Rose leading the way, they have yet to have a back-to-back losing streak. This All-Star player has a bright future in the NBA what with such a strong start in his career, and it is apparent Bulls fans are happy he is on our side.

While Feb. 2's game against the New York Knicks in the Big Apple was a close call, Chicago was able regain some of their pride with a 105-102 win. After a 98-82 loss to the Philadelphia 76ers only the night before, it made the game against the Knicks all the more nerve wracking. Fortunately, the team managed to pick themselves up behind Rose, who scored into the 30s for the third time in four games.

Derrick Rose is making Chicago sports fans cry with joy.

Granted of course, the stats on the Sixers (16-6) are substantially different than those on the Knicks (8-14), I was still worried the Bulls would lose their momentum. A season with so many games crammed together can be unpredictable like that. Another reason for such a close game was that Luol Deng and Rip Hamilton were sorely missed as the two heal from injuries.

With 19 wins and only 6 losses as of Feb. 2, the Bulls are leading the Eastern Conference. They have also managed a 4-1 record in the Central Division.

The second stat comes as no surprise, as their only real contender in the division is the Indiana Pacers, the team that handed them their first loss in divisional play and in the United Center, as it were. Their next game against Indiana is not until March, so we can only hope they will use that time re-evaluate how to beat them the next time around.

I tend to be superstitious about bragging about sports, so for now I will try my best to refrain from gloating too much. For now, let's just enjoy the new basketball renaissance that has come to the Windy City.

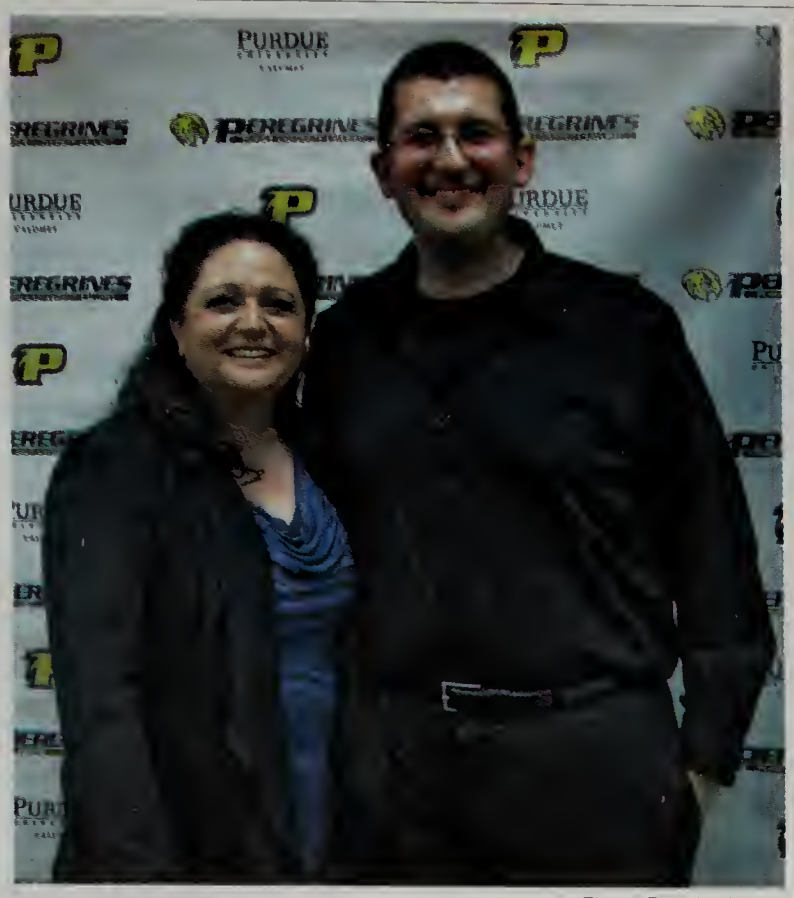


Photo: Brandon Hayes

Women's soccer coach Leslie Ferguson (left) and men's coach James Drzewiecki (right) were introduced on Feb. 1.

PUC introduces soccer program, head coaches

Brandon Hayes
News Editor

Two additions to the PUC Athletics Department were announced during a Feb. 1 press conference, held at the Fitness Center. The event marked the unveiling women's soccer and return of men's to PUC.

Athletic officials introduced Head Coaches Leslie Ferguson and James Drzewiecki, who will lead the two teams through the first season. PUC has never before had a women's soccer team, and has not had a men's soccer team in nearly 15 years.

The teams will be playing in the NAIA division and will be affiliated with the CCAC regional conference.

Ferguson, a 2000 graduate of Judson and a Huntley, Ill. native,, has been Head Coach at Waubonsee Community College for the past eight years. In 2008 and 2010, Ferguson led her team to the ISCC Championships and was ISCC runner-up in 2009 and 2011.

Drzewiecki, a Schererville, Ind. native and 2004 PUC graduate, has been the head coach at Ancilla College since 2006 and previously coached at Middle Georgia College. Drzewiecki has led his former team at Ancilla to the NJCAA Region XII Playoffs the past three years, with an overall record of 40-39-5.

Interim Athletic Director John Friend introduced the guests at the press conference and explained the process for finding the new coaches. He said the search committee went through 98 applicants for the men's head coaching position, and 91 for the women's. Eight to ten interviews with the top candidates were completed until it was down to three per position.

"I didn't dream when we started this process [we] talked to one guy from the U.K., had applicants from California, Delaware, South Carolina and we ended up with two coaches within 90 minutes drive from our campus," Friend said.

Drzewiecki was excited to get started.

"With the obvious support of our new chancellor, you have to be excited about that, all indications point to this as a first class operation. How could you ask for anymore?" Drzewiecki said.

Drzewiecki said ideally, he would like to have a team of 21 to 25 players.

See Soccer page 7

20th Annual
Clement S. Stacy Memorial Undergraduate Research Conference

Call for Papers

The Clement S. Stacy Memorial Undergraduate Research Conference is held each year to offer undergraduate students an opportunity to share their significant research in many areas of study. This conference brings students and mentors together from universities and colleges throughout the upper Midwest for lively presentations and discussion.

Papers written by undergraduate students in the following areas will be considered:

Anthropology
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American Literature
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Cultural Studies
English and U.S. Literature
Ethnic Studies
Feminist Literature
Foreign Language Studies
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Linguistics
Literary Criticism
Modern Languages
Philosophy
Political Science
Psychology
Rhetoric
Sociology
Women's Studies
World History
World Literature

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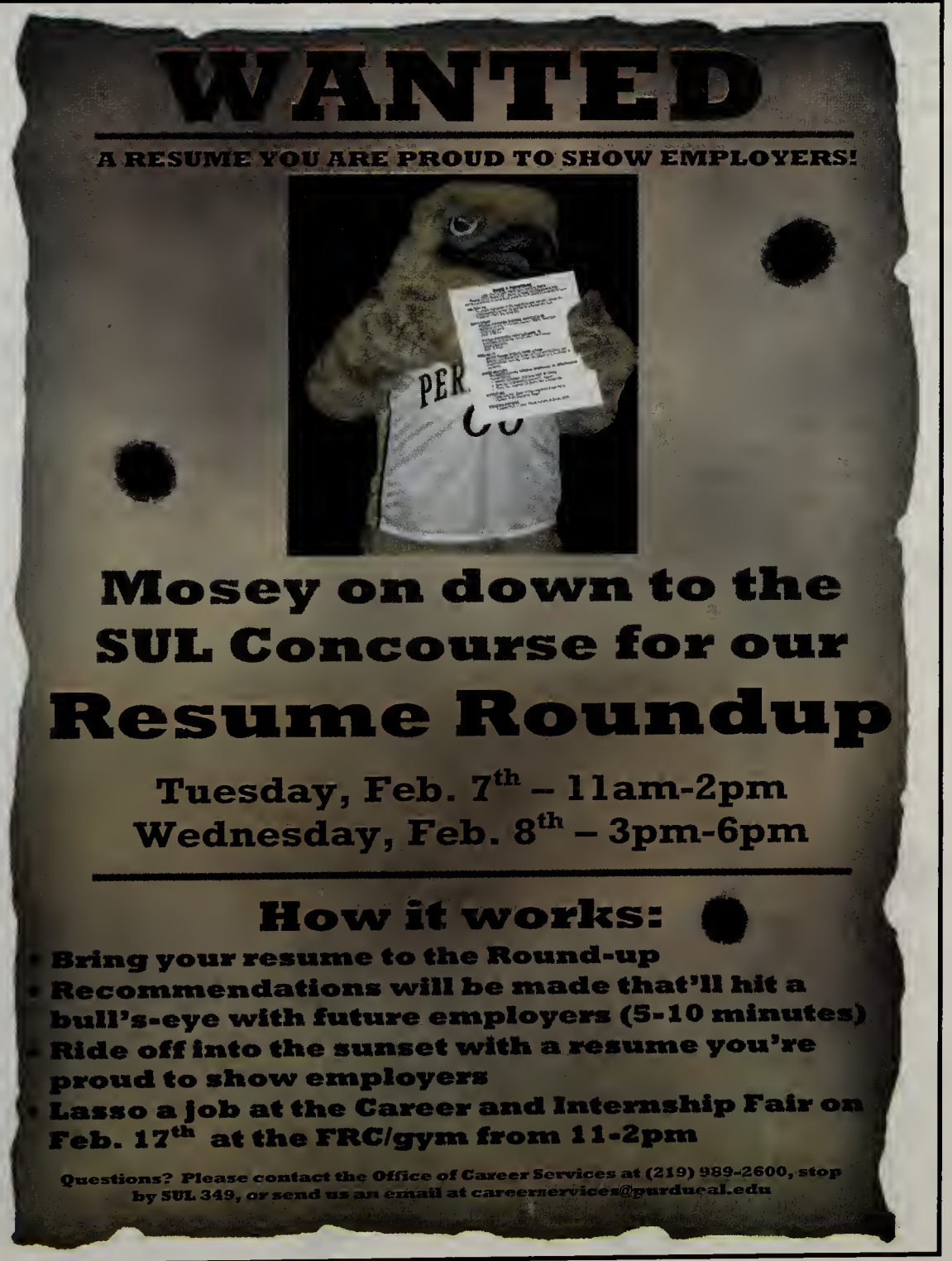
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A RESUME YOU ARE PROUD TO SHOW EMPLOYERS!
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SUL Concourse for our
Resume Roundup
Tuesday, Feb. 7th – 11am-2pm
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How it works:
• Bring your resume to the Round-up
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• Ride off into the sunset with a resume you're proud to show employers
• Lasso a job at the Career and Internship Fair on Feb. 17th at the FRC/gym from 11-2pm
Questions? Please contact the Office of Career Services at (219) 989-2600, stop by SUL 349, or send us an email at careerservices@purduecal.edu

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